



Queensland Independent Education Union

Wednesday, 30 November 2005 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEACHERS STAND TOGETHER TO FIGHT CUTS

The Queensland Independent Education Union (QIEU) has today written to the Principal of Trinity Anglican School to clarify which staff redundancies management have withdrawn in light of Rev Bland's reported statements in *The Cairns Post* today.

"Staff at the school have welcomed the news that their action over recent days has resulted in one of their colleagues having his redundancy notice rescinded," QIEU General Secretary Terry Burke said today.

"However the staff remain deeply concerned that the number of redundancy notices issued to teachers and ancillary staff last week does not match the numbers quoted by the Principal in the media today," Mr Burke said.

"QIEU was advised last Thursday that a total of seven staff were being made redundant and we became aware of another person late on Friday."

"Management's claim that the termination of a full-time position and replacement with a part-time position doesn't constitute a redundancy is a long bow to draw, especially for staff who face a significant loss of income," Mr Burke said.

QIEU Cairns Organiser Patrick Meikle said there was an obvious need for meaningful negotiation to be entered into by management.

"The numbers being bandied about by management are very rubbery and only serve to heighten staff uncertainty," Mr Meikle said.

A protest meeting has been organised at the White Rock campus at 8am this Thursday, 1 December 2005.

Mr Burke said the meeting would be an important opportunity for staff and community members to demonstrate their public support for colleagues targeted for redundancy and to once again urge the employer to implement the fair process staff unanimously endorsed last Thursday.

QIEU filed a dispute with the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission yesterday and a conference has been set for Tuesday, 6 December 2005.

For more information contact:

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Media Release